

Betty Gadling. Known affectionately as "Sister Betty," Ms. Gadling has served Allen Temple Baptist Church for 35 years as the venerable Minister of Music and Performing Arts.

A woman of many talents, Ms. Gadling has traveled the world as a performer, composed and published original pieces, recorded two albums of gospel music, directed numerous choral groups, and produced full-scale productions, such as *The Black Nativity* and *The Celebration of Light*. Through her passion and skill as a music instructor and mentor, she has developed countless programs that inspire our young people in the fields of music appreciation, instrumental instruction, voice lessons, music theory, business of music and ensemble playing.

Her contributions to the Bay Area through the Allen Temple Musical, Cultural and Performing Arts Committee are unmatched, and her musical gifts are only outweighed by her personal commitment to ministry, faith and service. In addition to a long musical career, Ms. Gadling was the first African-American female Sheriff in Contra Costa County, a valued staff member of the University of California, and an employee at Fairfield-Suisun Army Air Base (now Travis Air Force Base) while pursuing a degree at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music.

She has acted as a consultant for youth programs to the American Baptist Conferences, served on the Committee of Musicians and Pastors for the African American Hymnal, and was honored in 2009 as a Cal State East Bay Outstanding Alumnus and a Hampton University Ministers' Conference and the Choir Directors' Organists' Guild Workshop, "Living Legend in Church Music."

Betty is a musical genius and giant. Her creative spirit soars. She has been an inspiration to those whose lives she has touched, including myself. On behalf of the residents of California's 9th Congressional District, Ms. Betty Gadling, I salute you. Thank you for your exceptional contributions to Allen Temple Baptist Church and to residents throughout the Bay Area. I wish you and your loved ones all the best in this next chapter of life.

HONORING GWENDOLYN E. BOYD

**HON. AL GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 8, 2011*

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it was my privilege to have participated in the 22nd Delta Days, an annual Legislative Conference held in our Nation's capital today by the distinguished service organization, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

It is also my honor, during this Black History Month, to recognize a trailblazer in academia and a role model for thousands of Black women, the Honorable Gwendolyn E. Boyd. Due to her accomplishments both in the classroom and in the community, she was recently appointed by President Obama and confirmed by the United States Senate as a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Barry Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation. Ms. Boyd was sworn in to this position by Senator BARBARA MIKULSKI.

Gwendolyn Elizabeth Boyd is a native of Montgomery, Alabama. She was educated in

public schools and received a four-year scholarship to attend Alabama State University where she graduated summa cum laude with a B.S. degree in Mathematics with a double minor in Physics and Music. Additionally, Ms. Boyd was the first African American to earn a Masters degree in Mechanical Engineering from Yale University.

Gwendolyn Boyd is an engineer and the Executive Assistant to the Chief of Staff at the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory. She was appointed by the President of Johns Hopkins University as Chair of the Diversity Leadership Council, a position she has held since 2001. Ms. Boyd is a member of the Capital City Chapter of The Links, Inc., a Life Member of NAACP, the Alabama State University Alumni Association and the Association of Yale Alumni, as well as a participant in various engineering organizations for minorities.

From 2000–2004 Gwendolyn Boyd served as the 22nd National President of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., an international service sorority with over 200,000 members in over 950 chapters throughout the world. She currently serves along with Patricia Lattimore, former Assistant Secretary of Labor for Administration and Management, as the Sorority's National Social Action Co-Chair. Very active in "giving back" and helping promote an agenda for the positive growth and development of our youth, Ms. Boyd uses her many talents and skills to the benefit of the community. This includes freely sharing her time while she encourages their interests in careers in math, science and engineering and in their overall success.

It is my honor to recognize this accomplished woman and commend her many achievements.

DANIEL JOHN DENNEHY TRIBUTE

**HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 8, 2011*

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Daniel John Dennehy, of Del Norte, Colorado, who recently passed away. Daniel was a career sailor in the U.S. Navy, an avid outdoorsman and expert knife maker.

A distinguished member of the United States armed forces, he joined the Navy at a young age and served in World War II, the Korean War, and Vietnam. He retired from active duty in 1970 as a chief petty officer.

Daniel was known worldwide for his expert knowledge in the art of knife-making, and for his highly coveted "Dan-D" knives. During World War II, he crafted and sold knives to Marines as they went into battle. Later in life he started his own knife-making company, Dan-D knives. Dennehy's knives are recognized globally as top of the line outdoor and tactical knives. They have been included in national outdoor and sporting publications and notable public figures such as Clint Eastwood, Barry Goldwater and Steve Miller count themselves as Dan-D knife owners. Most importantly, his knives have been at the front lines of every conflict since World War II. Elite units to include Navy SEALs, Marine Force Recon and Army Special Forces rely on Dan-D knives for their durability and high quality construction.

Daniel was an accomplished writer, an avid reader, hunter, fisher and competitive marksman. He was a regular contributor to numerous publications, writing editorials about various topics including politics and government. He was a lifelong learner and obsessive reader. Daniel was an accomplished marksman, and in the 1970's lent his time as a volunteer deputy sheriff for the Rio Grande Sheriff's Office.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Daniel's significant contributions to his community and his trade, and thank him and his family for his military service.

HONORING MAJOR GENERAL VANG PAO

**HON. JEFF DENHAM**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 8, 2011*

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and achievements of Major General Vang Pao. General Pao served in the Royal Lao Army and fought alongside the United States Armed Forces during the Vietnam war. He passed away Thursday, January 6th, 2011.

General Pao was born December 8, 1929 in the Xiangkuang Province of northeastern Laos. He worked as a farmer in Laos until Japanese forces occupied the region as part of the French Indo-China War. During the conflict he fought alongside fellow Laotians to protect his country against the Japanese invasion. Following the war, Vang Pao continued to serve in the army of the Kingdom of Laos under the King of Laos. General Pao received the honored title of Phagna Norapramok, roughly translated as "Lord Protector of the Country" from the last King of Laos, King Savang Vatthana.

During the 1960s and 1970s, General Pao led the Secret Army, during the Secret War, where they fought against the Pathet Lao and the People's Army of Vietnam to prevent the spread of communism into Southeast Asia. General Pao commanded the Military Region Two where he successfully fought to prevent the capture of this region by the communist forces of the North Vietnamese Army. Additionally, he was an ally of the Central Intelligence Agency and organized 39,000 guerrilla warriors to aid downed American pilots and defend American outposts from the enemy.

After the war, General Pao emigrated to the United States in May of 1975. He actively worked to ensure the resettlement of hundreds of thousands of Hmong and Lao immigrants in America and to ensure equal rights for them. Additionally he worked to help facilitate U.S.-Lao relationships and helped the Hmong community embrace their new identity as Hmong-Americans.

General Vang Pao dedicated his life to fight for freedom and democratic rights for all Southeast Asians. He relentlessly worked to improve the Hmong community and the world around him. General Vang Pao's legacy will not only be his leadership and accomplishments, but first and foremost, his service to his country and community.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor General Vang Pao for his service and dedication to the United States and the Hmong community. I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring Major General Vang Pao.